THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b): No, Sir. Removal of encroachment in R.K. Puram is to be carried out by CPWD, DDA, MCD and Directorate of Estates depending upon the administrative control of various pockets in the area. In some isolated cases when the position with regard to exact administrative control is not clear, the position needs to be ascertained before taking further action which is being done by the concerned organisation.

(c) Action is being taken to identify such encroachees who are not entitled for alternative accommodation or compensation and so demolish/remove the same.

(d) No action is proposed to be initiated against any of the CPWD officers as there is not such report from any quarter.

Cost-Effectiveness of the Purchase of Oman Gas Through OOC

694. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Finance had questioned the cost-effectiveness of the purchase of Oman Gas through Oman Oil Company thorugh under-water pipeline @ $2.25, further raised to $2.5/ MMBTU;

(b) whether it is a fact that before India stepped in, no one was ready to purchase the gas which cost Oman company only 90 cents/MMBTU ever @ $1.50/MBTU; and

(c) whether the recently formed joint working group is expected to study this aspect also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Apart from the Oman-India project, Oman is also setting up a project for the export of LNG.

(c) The Joint Working Group will examine ways of expediting the feasibility study and will also identify agencies to finance the project.

Rehabilitation Programme for the Bombay High

695. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rehabilitation programme for the Bombay High has not yielded the desired results and that then enhanced oil recovery from Bombay High is doubtful;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on the programme;

(c) what are the reasons for failure of the programme;

(d) to what extent the annual production of Bombay High has declined since 1993; and

(e) the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (c) ONGC has been carrying out repair/workover of wells not producing optimally by installing artificial lifts, control of high gas and water out by deploying workover rigs etc. The expenditure on these is a part of the operating expenditure of the oil field.